

Jennings County Commissioner Meeting  
Government Annex Building, Commissioners Meeting Room  
October 10, 2019 6:30PM

All members were present.

The meeting was opened with Matt Sporleder leading the pledge.

Kerry McConnell with Southeastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (SIRPC) did a final public hearing for the Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority (IHCDA). In 2018 Jennings County was awarded a grant for \$178,004 from IHCDA as well as a grant for \$43,125.81 from USDA Rural Development Housing Preservation Grant Program. The funds were used to assist seven families and all were in Jennings County. All households were considered low to moderate income. Work completed consisted of health and safety issues and energy conservation. The rehab program ended on September 23, 2019. The 18 month construction benchmark of 100% of funds by September 26, 2019 was met.

Nicci Lucas, HR, spoke on behalf of Amy Thompson about a job opening in the Clerk's office. Bob Willhite made a motion to allow Amy Thompson to fill the position. Dave Lane seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Nicci also had Shepherd Insurance on hand to discuss the Health Insurance Renewal for 2020. A summary of the 2020 Health & Welfare Plan Renewals was discussed. The medical insurance was negotiated from 9.9% a 5% increase. Bob Willhite made a motion to accept the renewal and for the county to absorb the 5% increase so there is no extra cost to the employee. Dave Lane seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Marie Shepherd was next on the agenda with a rezone request for Wes and Darlene Bradshaw, being represented by Daniel Coots of Coots, Henke, & Wheeler. They would like to rezone 10,000 square feet at 1995 W CR 725 N, North Vernon. The property would be rezoned from agricultural to institutional utility for the construction of a communication tower. There has been no opposition. Bob Willhite made a motion to approve the rezone request. Dave Lane seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Jerry Shepherd, EMA, gave the Commissioners an update on the burn ban. Jerry spoke to the fire chiefs and agreed it is best to keep the county under the burn ban because of the crops. Jerry also stated that the Proving Grounds have asked for an exemption to burn 900 acres. Jerry has them on hold for the moment. Bob Willhite made a motion to leave the burn ban in place unless we receive a substantial amount of rainfall and at that point Jerry may contact each Commissioner

individually to have the ban lifted. Dave Lane seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Jerry also spoke about a meeting he had with the fire chiefs. A plan concerning the Rescue Team was discussed. Each department came to an agreement to send a list of what resources their department includes and a roster of personnel. This information will be put into a book completed by the committee. Dispatch will have this book on hand.

Auditor Salsman presented the Commissioners with a request to attend meetings and/or classes. The first meeting being a State Called meeting for the Auditors and Treasurers, October 16-17 in Lawrenceburg. The next request coming from Assessor Randall Shepherd for his Level III Certification class, December 9-13.

Auditor Salsman then requested signatures on the SRI Contract for a Commissioners Sale. This contract has already been reviewed and approved. The Commissioners signed the contract.

Auditor Salsman then presented a contract for Malcon. County attorney Ellie Bright has reviewed and approved the contract. Bob Willhite made a motion to renew the Malcon contract. Dave Lane seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

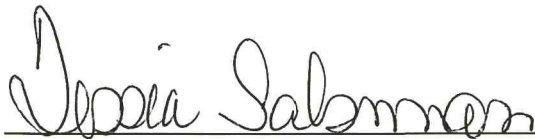
Chase Roll came before the Commissioners to inform them of damage to his vehicle caused by poor road conditions. Matt Sporleder informed Chase of the process that needs to happen to file a claim.

Next, Auditor Salsman presented the Commissioners with the 2020 Notice to Bidders for the Jennings County Highway Department material, supplies, and/or services. The Commissioners will receive sealed bids until 4:00 pm on Thursday, November 14, 2019 at the Jennings County Auditors Office. Bids may also be delivered to the Commissioners prior to the regular meeting at 6:30 pm. Bob Willhite made a motion to put the notice in the local papers for Columbus, Greensburg, and North Vernon papers. Dave Lane seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Bob Willhite made a motion to sign and approve prior minutes. Dave Lane seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Bob Willhite made a motion to sign payroll and claims. Dave Lane seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

~~Bob Willhite made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dave Lane seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.~~



Tessia Salsman, Auditor



Matt Sporleder, Commissioner President



Robert Willhite, Commissioner Vice-President



Dave Lane, Commissioner